

From my perspective,
Democracy in this
country is
imperiled. Few
people vote and
those who do, have
their opinions on
important issues
manipulated by a
stifling media
blanket that admits
few if any
dissenting points of
view. To make
matters worse, media
conglomerates like
Sinclair
Broadcasting use
public owned
broadcast channels
to carry out this
self-interested
subversion of the
public mind. This
subversion is
revealed in Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
large companies
control the
airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for the bottom line
and less of what we
need for our
democracy. Instead
of something
produced at "News
Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see real
people from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media

ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.